

# USE EXCLUSION

(Acre)  
Code 472

Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Conservation Practice Standard

## I. Definition

Excluding animals, people or vehicles from an area.

## II. Purpose

To prevent, restrict, or control access to an area to maintain or improve the quantity and quality of natural resources or minimize liability and human health concerns.

## III. Conditions Where Practice Applies

On all land uses where permanent or temporary use exclusion is needed.

## IV. Federal, State, and Local Laws

Users of this standard shall comply with applicable federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations or permit requirements governing **use exclusion**. This standard does not contain the text of federal, state, or local laws.

## V. Criteria

Barriers shall consist of either natural and/or artificial structures such as logs, vegetation, earth-fill, boulders, fences, gates, electronic and sonic devices, or signs.

Barriers must be adequate to prevent, restrict, or control use by targeted vehicles, animals or people and not create a safety hazard.

Barrier life expectancy must be adequate for the intended purpose.

Timing and exclusion periods necessary to accomplish intended purposes must be described in the conservation plan.

To prevent accidents associated with the use of vehicles, barriers associated with roads and trails shall be adequately marked to safeguard human safety and minimize the risk of liability.

## VI. Considerations

Assess potential landowner and user liability before installing barriers.

Develop public access alternatives in areas where public right of access has previously been established by past use and law.

Barrier type and design should account for and minimize impact to impair wildlife health and animal movement.

Barriers should account for and minimize impact on public safety activities such as fire control.

## VII. Plans and Specifications

Specifications for applying this practice shall be prepared for each site and recorded using applicable technical standards found in the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) Section IV, including standard 382, Fence; Standard 422, Hedgerow Planting; and Wisconsin Construction Specification 10, Fencing. Job sheets, technical notes, narrative statements in the conservation plan, and a map showing location and extent of fencing will serve as acceptable planning documentation.

## VIII. Operation and Maintenance

Barriers will be periodically inspected and repairs performed as needed.

## IX. References

USDA, NRCS Wisconsin Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG), Section IV, Practice Standards and Specifications.